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Amendment  
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DOCKET NO: 239570US71CONT



RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING  
GROUP 3135

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
KIMBERLY A. ANDERSON, ET AL. : EXAMINER: GILBERT  
SERIAL NO: 10/616,926 :  
FILED: JULY 11, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 3735  
FOR: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT AND :  
METHOD :

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated March 15, 2007, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.